

1. A method of verifying charges billed to a customer by a vendor, comprising:
 - loading a set of billing data associated with the charges into a billing verification system that is accessible by both the customer and the vendor via a distributed computer network;
 - facilitating customer review of the billing data via the billing verification system to identify one or more billing exceptions associated with one or more disputed charges;
 - generating a billing exception record in the billing verification system for each of the billing exceptions;
 - notifying the vendor of the availability of the billing exception records;
 - facilitating vendor review of and response to the billing exception records via the billing verification system;
 - generating a billing exception response record for each of the vendor responses; and
 - notifying the customer of the availability of the vendor response records.
2. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, wherein:
 - the vendor provides the set of billing data in the form of an electronic data file; and
 - the set of billing data is loaded into the billing verification system from the electronic data file.
3. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, wherein:
 - the vendor provides the set of billing data in the form of a hardcopy bill; and
 - the set of billing data is loaded into the billing verification system by an operator that manually enters the billing data from the hardcopy bill.

4. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, wherein the set of billing data represents one or more invoices from the vendor.
5. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 5, wherein the disputed charges consist of one or more line items selected from the vendor invoices.
6. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 5, wherein the disputed charges consist of all line items selected from one or more of the vendor invoices.
7. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, wherein each of the vendor responses corresponds to an action selected from the group consisting of:
 - allowing the billing exception;
 - disallowing the billing exception; and
 - partially allowing the billing exception.
8. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 7, wherein the partial allowance of the billing exception includes identifying a partially allowed dollar value.
9. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, further comprising:
 - incorporating customer comments in the billing exception record.
10. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, further comprising:
 - attaching customer supporting electronic documentation to the billing exception record.
11. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, further comprising:

incorporating vendor comments in the billing exception response record.

12. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, further comprising:
 - attaching vendor supporting electronic documentation to the billing exception response record.
13. A method of verifying vendor charges billed to a customer by a vendor as in claim 1, further comprising:
 - automatically generating a credit for an allowed billing exception dollar value against a vendor account in a customer accounts payable system.
14. A method of verifying repair facility charges billed to an equipment owner by a repair agent, comprising:
 - loading a set of repair billing data associated with the repair charges into a computer-based billing verification system that is accessible to both the equipment owner and the repair agent via a distributed computer network;
 - facilitating equipment owner review of the repair billing data via the billing verification system to identify one or more billing exceptions associated with one or more disputed repair charges;
 - generating a billing exception record in the billing verification system for each of the billing exceptions;
 - notifying the repair agent of the billing exceptions;
 - facilitating repair agent review of and response to the billing exception records via the billing verifications system;
 - generating a billing exception response record for one or more repair agent responses; and
 - notifying the customer of the repair agent responses.
15. A method of verifying repair charges billed to an equipment owner by a repair agent as in claim 14, wherein facilitating repair agent review further

comprises facilitating review by a repair agent managing representative of all billing exception records.

16. A method of verifying repair charges billed to an equipment owner by a repair agent as in claim 14, wherein facilitating repair agent review further comprises facilitating review by a repair agent field representative of only those billing exception records that are associated with a field repair facility for which the field representative is responsible.
17. A method of verifying repair charges billed to an equipment owner by a repair agent as in claim 14, wherein the billing exception records are displayed in a format that complies with the Association of American Railroads Interchange Rules governing billing repair cards.
18. A system for verifying vendor charges billed to a customer, comprising:
 - a billing verification database;
 - means for loading a set of billing data associated with the charges into the database;
 - a customer graphical user interface in communication with the database and operable to facilitate customer review of the billing data to identify a plurality of billing exceptions associated with a plurality of disputed charges and to generate a billing exception record in the database for each of the billing exceptions;
 - a vendor graphical user interface in communication with the database and operable to facilitate vendor review of the billing exception records to generate a billing exception response record in the database for each of the reviewed billing exception records.
19. A system for verifying vendor charges billed to a customer as in claim 18, wherein each billing exception response record is contained within the corresponding billing exception record.
20. A system for verifying vendor charges billed to a customer as in claim 18, further comprising:

a server in communication with the billing verification database, and operable to generate a plurality of custom web pages; and wherein the customer graphical user interface and the vendor graphical user interface each include at least one of the plurality of custom web pages generated by the server.

21. A system for verifying vendor charges billed to a customer as in claim 20, wherein the customer graphical user interface is displayed on a customer computer workstation that is in communication with the server via a distributed computer network.
22. A system for verifying vendor charges billed to a customer as in claim 20, wherein the vendor graphical user interface is displayed on a vendor computer workstation that is in communication with the server via a distributed computer network.
23. A system for verifying vendor charges billed to a customer as in claim 18, further comprising:
 - a mainframe accounting system operable to store the set of billing data; and wherein
 - the means for loading the set of billing data transfer the set of billing data from the mainframe accounting system to the billing verification database.
24. A system for verifying vendor charges billed to a customer as in claim 18, wherein the server is in communication with a customer accounts payable system.